

March 7, 2013

Co-Chair Bob Duff
Co-Chair Lonnie Reed
Senator Clark J. Chapin
Representative Laura R. Hoydick

Energy and Technology Committee:

My name is Mike Moffa and I work for Norbert E. Mitchell Co., Inc. located in Danbury Ct. The company was founded in 1945 after Mr. Mitchell returned from World War II and the company continues to be run by the family today. I have worked for the company since 1992, starting out working at one of our gas stations while I attended college. I was working at one of our gas stations in Danbury during the construction project when a vapor recovery system was installed about 20 years ago. Over my years at the company, I have worked closely with multiple generations of the family to ensure compliance with the many regulations applicable to our local gas stations. I'm here today to speak in favor of H.B. 6534 for the decommissioning of Stage II Vapor Recovery Systems at Connecticut Gas Stations.

As I understand it, the original intent of this law was to capture gases that escape during the fueling process to ensure a healthier and safer environment. The current age and technology of our vehicle fleet is such that the vast majority of cars provide their own method of vapor capture making Stage II systems at our fueling sites unnecessary. The requirement to continue to maintain these Stage II Vapor recovery systems at our local gas stations carries a heavy cost in addition to the upfront cost of over \$50,000 per station. At our Fairfield and Litchfield County gas stations, we spend over \$5,000 each year per location for maintenance, testing and record keeping of this system that no longer serves a purpose. In these economic times, our family owned company would much rather spend this money on wages, benefits, and site improvements to benefit our Connecticut employees, customers and the environment.

Stage II Vapor Recovery Systems are no longer needed and this costly burden on Connecticut Gasoline stations should be removed. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Michael J. Moffa, Controller
Norbert E. Mitchell Co., Inc.